



## Is your school library media program equipped to be an effective partner to help meet the demanding requirements of NCLB?

As a school leader, meeting the demanding requirements of NCLB falls mainly on you. A Wisconsin study of its school libraries demonstrates that schools with good library media programs have students who do better academically as measured by WKCE and ACT test scores. You may never meet the ambitious NCLB literacy goals of 100% by 2014, but effective library media programs will help bring you closer to the goal.

### NCLB Goal: Ensure all students are literate by 2014.

#### Guiding Questions:

- How does the library media program inspire students to read, write, and use resources effectively and enthusiastically?
- Does the collection provide access to resources for a wide range of interests and abilities on a wide range of topics?

### NCLB Goal: Ensure all students score proficient or advanced on the WKCE.

#### Guiding Questions:

- What library media program print and electronic resources meet instructional needs?
- How are WKCE test data, ITLS and content standards, and resource guides used to develop the library media program?
- How does the library media program integrate ITLS with content standards?
- When is time provided for teachers and library media specialists to collaboratively plan lessons that support Wisconsin content standards?

### NCLB Goal: Ensure teachers have the resources and skills necessary to be deemed "highly qualified."

#### Guiding Questions:

- Is your library media specialist a full-time, highly-qualified teacher?
- What instruction does the library media specialist provide in the use of resources and technology using established best practices?
- What opportunities does the library media specialist have to participate in local, state, and national professional growth opportunities?
- How does the library media program serve as a resource for staff development efforts?

**"Many administrators think of the library as a cost rather than as an investment. There is no question that quality library media programs, like all quality programs, require substantial funding – but not every quality program pays off for students across the board like libraries can. The opportunity rests in the principal's hands. The principal is an absolutely essential element in maximizing the return on library investment."**

— Gary Hartzell

*White House Conference on School Libraries, 2002*

### NCLB Goal: Ensure all students are technologically literate.

#### Guiding Questions:

- Which learning activities teach users to find, evaluate and use information responsibly and effectively?
- Is there adequate equipment to support the needs of teachers and students?
- Is there ready access to computers and other information technologies, including remote access, for all students?
- How does the library media program provide guidance to students using technology to complete school assignments and explore personal interests?

### NCLB Goal: Ensure the school remains committed to good educational practices that go beyond the requirements of NCLB.

#### Guiding Questions:

- How is the library media specialist involved in goal setting and school improvement planning?
- What documentation is available to support the library media program?
- How does the library media program communicate with administrators, teachers, students, parents, and the community?
- How does the library media program participate in district public relations efforts?

### Key findings from *Student Learning Through Wisconsin School Library Media Centers*

#### Key Finding #1:

Schools with full-time certified library media specialists and full-time library aides have higher performance on the WKCE.

#### Key Finding #2:

Schools where the library media specialist spends more time on instructionally-related student and teacher activities have higher WKCE scores.

#### Key Finding #3:

Teachers who aligned WMAS for Information and Technology Literacy to their lessons found school library media programs more helpful to student performance.

#### Key Finding #4:

Schools with greater library media program resources for collections and technology have higher performance on the WKCE.

#### Key Finding #5:

Library media specialists help students acquire unique skills not taught in the classroom and information and technology skills essential for students in the 21st century.

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Smith, Ester G. *Student Learning Through Wisconsin School Library Media Centers*. 2006. Retrieved September 1, 2006 from <http://dpi.wi.gov/imt/lmsstudy.html>.



Dear Wisconsin School  
Administrators,

The recently completed study  
of Wisconsin school library  
media programs, *Students*

*Learning Through Wisconsin School  
Library Media Centers*, commissioned by  
the Department of Public Instruction, has  
provided insights into how school library  
media programs and library media special-  
ists contribute to student success.

The study examined the leadership and  
instructional roles of Wisconsin public  
school library media specialists required  
for a quality school library media program  
and the direct relationship with and impact  
on student achievement and learning  
across all grade levels.

The results of the study, along with this  
brochure containing guiding questions,  
can help you assess the vitality and  
involvement of your school's library media  
center and program.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Burmaster  
State Superintendent

### Visit these websites to learn more about Wisconsin school library media programs:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/imt/lmsstudy.html>

Students Learning Through Wisconsin School Library  
Media Centers (complete study results)

Measuring Up: Characteristics of Quality School  
Libraries (brochure)

Student Learning Through Wisconsin School  
Libraries: Wisconsin Study Results  
(1 page study results summary)

<http://dpi.wi.gov/standards/pdf/infotech.pdf>

Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for  
Information & Technology Literacy

[www.imis.gov/news/events/whitehouse.shtm](http://www.imis.gov/news/events/whitehouse.shtm)

White House Conference on School Libraries –  
June 2002

[www.scholastic.com/librarians/printables  
/downloads/sl原因\\_2006.pdf](http://www.scholastic.com/librarians/printables/downloads/sl原因_2006.pdf)

School Libraries Work! Research Foundation Paper,  
2006 Ed.

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October 2006

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Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

## A Guide for Administrators



# Powerful Partnerships:

## The School Library Media Specialist and You

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
ELIZABETH BURMASTER, STATE SUPERINTENDENT